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ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
C
OF IRELAND

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THE

CHARTER

OF THE

ROYAL COLLEGE

OF

SURGEONS

IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN:

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THE

CHARTER

OF THE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of GOD, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth. To all unto whom these Presents shall come greeting.

WHEREAS we are informed, by the humble Petition of Henry Morris, William Ruxton, George Daunt, John Whiteway, Henry Lyster, Robert Bowes, Samuel Croker King, Gustavus Hume, John Neale, Philip Woodroofe, Francis Foreside, William Dease, and James Henthorn, on behalf of themselves and others, principal Surgeons of the City of Dublin, that the Regulation of the Profession of

Petition of several surgeons of the city of Dublin, setting forth reasons for incorporating them and others.

Surgery is of the utmost Importance to the Public, and highly necessary to the Welfare of Mankind; and that the Public sustains great Injury from the Defects in the present System of Surgical Education in our Kingdom of Ireland, and that the regularly educated Surgeons of the City of Dublin, in our Kingdom of Ireland, (who are become a numerous and considerable Body) find themselves incompetent (from the want of a Charter) to establish a liberal and extensive System of Surgical Education in our said Kingdom. And the Petitioners, by the said Petition, having prayed that we would be graciously pleased, by Letters patent under our Great Seal of our said Kingdom of Ireland, to incorporate the said Petitioners and others hereinafter particularly mentioned.

His Majesty's approbation thereof.

And we being graciously pleased to approve of the said Institution, and to provide that a due and seasonable Regulation may be made, and that an apt, proper and legal Corporation may be constituted and established in our said City of Dublin, of regular, able, and experienced Practitioners in Surgery, endowed with Powers, Jurisdictions and Privileges, convenient and requisite for the Purpose aforesaid.

Our *Will* and *Pleasure* therefore is, and *We do* hereby *grant*, *ordain*, *constitute* and *appoint* the said Henry Morris, George Daunt, John Whiteway, Henry Lyster, Robert Bowes, Samuel Croker King, Gustavus Hume, John Neale, Philip Woodroofe, William Dease, and James Henthorn, and such others as shall from time to time be elected in the Manner hereinafter directed, to be for ever a Body Politic and corporate which at all times hereafter shall consist of a president and commonalty, and shall be called by the Name of The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and by the aforesaid name they shall have perpetual Succession, and shall and may for ever hereafter implead and be impleaded before all manner of Justices in all Courts, and in all manner of Actions and Suits. And also that they and their Successors, by the same Name, shall be at all Times hereafter, for ever, able and capable in Law, to purchase, enjoy and take Lands, Tenements, Rents and Hereditaments, not exceeding the yearly Rent or Value of One Thousand Pounds Sterling; and also goods and Chattles, and all other Things of what Name, Nature and Quality the same may be; and also to grant, demise, alien, assign and dispose of the said Lands, Tenements, rents, hereditaments, goods and chattles, and

Certain Persons incorporated.

Title.

To purchase lands not exceeding 1000l. per annum.

to do and execute all other Things, lawful, necessary and convenient, for the common Profit of the said College: and also that they and their Successors shall and may for ever hereafter have a Common Seal, which shall always be and remain in the Custody of the President of the said College for the Time being; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said College, lawfully convened, or the major Part of the Members thereof, for the Time being, to break, alter, change or make void, the said Seal from Time to Time, as to them shall seem requisite and fit.

To have a common seal.

Election of officers and members.

And further, our Will and Pleasure is, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation, from Time to Time, to elect, chuse and appoint one President, and six Censors, and to elect, chuse and appoint twelve Members of the said College to be the Court of Assistants of the said College; and also to elect such Number of Persons qualified as herein mentioned as they shall think fit, to be of the aforesaid Commonalty. The said President, Censors and twelve Persons, to be continued in the said respective Offices for such Time as is hereinafter set forth.

And further, That it shall and may be lawful for such President, for the Time being, to appoint, by Deed or Instrument under his Hand and Seal, some Person who shall have obtained such Letters testimonial as herein mentioned, to be Vice-President of the said College, which Vice-President shall, in the Absence of the President, have all and singular the same Powers and Authorities as the said President would have if personally present.

Appointment of a Vice-President.

And further, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the President, or in his Absence the Vice-President, and Censors, or any two of them, with six or more of the said Commonalty of the said College, for the Time being, when and as often as the said President, or in his Absence the Vice-President, shall think fitting to hold Courts and Assemblies, in order to treat and consult about the State and Government of the said College. And that it shall be lawful for the President, or in his absence, the Vice-president, Censors, and Commonalty, so assembled, to make, ordain, constitute, establish, ratify, confirm, alter, annul, revoke or abrogate, from Time to Time, such By-Laws, Ordinances, Rules and Constitutions, as to them shall seem requisite for the Regulation, Government and Advantage of the said

President, Vice-President, Censors, or two of them and six or more of the commonalty may hold assemblies when the President or Vice-President shall think fit.

To make By-laws, &c.

Body, so as such By-laws, Rules and Constitutions be agreeable to the Laws and Statutes of our Realm, and be communicated to the Members of the said College at large, lawfully convened by Summonses, and be ratified and confirmed by the Majority of the Members so convened.

Appointment of the first President, Censors and Assistants.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That our said well-beloved subject Samuel Croker King, be First President of the said College of Surgeons; and that the said Henry Morris, George Daunt, John Whiteway, Henry Lyster, Robert Bowes and Gustavus Hume, be the First six Censors of the said College of Surgeons; and that the said John Neale, Philip Woodroofe, William Dease, James Henthorn and Arthur Winter, Michael Keogh, Archibald Richardson, James Mills, Vernon Lloyd, James Boyton, George Stewart, and Ralph Smith Obrè, be the First twelve Assistants, each of them to continue from the day of the Date of these our Letters Patent, until the First Monday in January One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five, then next ensuing, and from and after the said Day until some other meet and sufficient Members of the said Corporation be elected and sworn into the said respective Offices of President, Censors

and Assistants, if they respectively shall so long live, or be not sooner removed.

Power to adminster oaths to the several Officers.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Censors of the College aforesaid, or any two of them, to give and adminster unto the said First President his Personal Oath on the Holy Evangelists, *well, truly and faithfully to attend and execute the said Office or Place of President of the same College;* and also full Power and Authority unto the said First President, after he shall be so sworn, to give and administer unto the said Censors, and to such Vice-President as he shall appoint, and to all and every Person and Persons whomsoever to be constituted by these our Letters Patent, Officers or Members of the said College his and their like corporal Oath on the Holy Evangelists, *well, truly and faithfully to attend and execute his and their several and respective Office or Offices, Place or Places;* and that the succeeding President and Presidents, before he or they shall enter on the said Office and Offices respectively, shall take the Oaths hereby appointed to be taken by the President before the next preceding President, or before the next preceding Censors, or any two of them; and the Censors so to be elected as herein-after directed, shall, from Time to Time, before they shall respective-

Oath of Officers and of Members.

ly enter on their respective Offices, take such respective Oaths as aforesaid before the President or Vice-President, for the Time being, or before the next preceding President or Vice-President, or any two of the next preceding Censors; and the Assistants, so to be elected, as herein-after directed, from Time to Time, shall likewise, before they or any of them enter on their respective Offices, take the Oath hereby appointed to be taken by them, before the Pesident, Vice-President, or any two of the Censors, for the Time being; and such Vice-President and Vice-Presidents shall, from Time to Time, before he and they shall enter on his and their Offices, take the Oath hereby appointed to be taken by them, before the President for the Time being, which Oath the said President, Vice-President and Censors respectively, or any two of such Censors, are hereby respectively, required and empowered to administer.

May elect a register or secretary officers and servants.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That the said College lawfully convened may, from Time to Time, elect a Register or Secretary, and elect such other Officer or Officers, Servant or Servants, as to them shall seem necessary for the better regulation of the said college.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That the President, or any two of the Censors, shall, upon the First Monday of January, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five, and on the First Monday in the Month of January in every succeeding Year, between the Hours of Nine and Three of the said Day, or within three Days next ensuing, by regular Summonses convene the Members of the said College, at any convenient Place within the City of Dublin. And the said College shall and may, by Ballot, elect, chuse and appoint out of the Members at large of the said College, by the Majority of Votes, one Person to be President, and six other Persons to be Censors, for the then succeeding Year; and then and there also in like Manner elect, chuse and appoint out of the Members of the said College, twelve Persons to be of the Court of Assistants, for the then succeeding Year.

Annual election of officers on the first Monday in January

Members to be convened by summons.

To elect by ballot.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That when and so often as the President or any of the Censors or Assistants shall die, resign, or be removed before the Expiration of the Year or other Time for which he shall be elected to serve, then and so often it shall and may be lawful for the said College, being duly

Election of Officers in case of death, &c.

convened by Summonses, to elect a President, Censor or Assistant, as the Case may be, in the Place and Stead of the President, Censor or Assistant so dying, resinging, or being removed; and such Person, so elected, shall serve for the remainder of the year, or other Time for which the said President, Censor, or Assistant so dying, resigning or being removed, was so elected to serve.

President and four Censors to examine

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That the Censors of the said College, or any four of them, together with the President, or in his absence the Vice-President shall, from Time to Time, upon request made to the President, or in his Absence to the Vice-President, or any one of the said Censors, examine every Person who shall have served an Apprenticeship of Five Years to any regularly educated Surgeon, and who shall intend to become a Member of said College; and if such President, or in his Absence the Vice-President, and such four Censors, or the Majority of such President or Vice-President, and last mentioned Censors, shall be of Opinion that such Person so examined is duly qualified to practise Surgery, then they, or the Majority of them as aforesaid, shall give each Person so examined and qualified as aforesaid, such Certifi-

To grant Certificate or Letters Testimonial.

cate or Letters Testimonial of his Qualification to practise under the Common Seal of the said College, as to the said President and last mentioned Censors, or the major Part of them, shall seem reasonable and just.—And that the several Persons, so examined and approved of, shall be deemed qualified to be elected Members of the said College, the said President, or in his absence the Vice-President, and Censors, having first taken the following oath, that is to say;—*I. A. B. do solemnity and sincerely promise and swear, that I will, to the best of my Knowledge, Skill and Judgment, wihout Hatred, Evil-will, Partiality, Affection, favour or fear, justly, equally and faithfully discharge the Trust and execute the Powers vested in me by a certain Charter, whereby the Surgeons of the City of Dublin are incorporated, by the Name of "The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland." So help me God.*——Which Oath is to be administered to the President, or in his Absence to the Vice-President, by the said Censors, or any two of them; and the President is to administer the same Oath to the said Censors; and they are hereby respectively authorised and required to administer the same accordingly,

Examiner's oath.

Appeal to the Court of Assistants.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That in Case any Person examined as aforesaid shall

think himself aggrieved by the Judgment of the said President, or Vice-President, and Censors or Examiners, he may lodge an Appeal from such Judgment of the said President, or Vice-President, and Censors or Examiners, to the President, or Vice-President, and Court of Assistants, who shall be required upon such Appeal to re-examine the Party so complaining, within a reasonable Time; and if, upon such Re-examination, he shall appear duly qualified as aforesaid, then to grant him such Letters Testimonial as aforesaid, as to the said President, or in his Absence the Vice-President, and Court of Assistans, or to the major Part of them, shall appear just and reasonable. The said Court of Assistants first taking the said Examiners' Oath directed by this Charter, which Oath the President, or in his Absence the Vice-President, is hereby authorised and required to administer; and that the said several Persons, so examined and approved of, shall be deemed qualified to practice Surgery, and to be elected Members of the said College.

Exemption from parish and other offices.

And our further Will and Pleasure is, That all Persous being Members of the said College shall, for so long a Time as he and they shall exercise and practise the said Profession of Surgery, and no longer, be freed and exempt-

ed from the several Offices of Constable, Church-Warden, and all other Parish, Ward and Leet Offices, and from serving upon any Jury or Inquest in any County, City or Town, in our said Kingdom of Ireland, upon his or their producing Letters Testimonial under the Common Seal of the said College of such his Examination and Approbation.

And Lastly, We do declare and ordain, That these our Letters Patent, and every Clause, Sentence and Article herein contained, or the Inrollment thereof in our High Court of Chancery in our said Kingdom of Ireland, shall be in all Things firm, valid, sufficient effectual in the Law unto the said College and their Successors, according to the Purport and Tenor thereof, without any further Grant, License or Toleration from us, our Heirs or Successors, to be procured or obtained. Ratification.

Provided always, that these our Letters Patent be inrolled in the Rolls Office of the High Court of Chancery in our said Kingdom of Ireland, within six Months next ensuing the Date hereof; otherwise these our Letters Patent to be void and of none Effect, any Thing herein contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. Inrollment.

IN WITNESS whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent.—Witness our Lieutenant-General and General Governor of our said Kingdom of Ireland, at *Dublin*, the eleventh Day of *February*, in the twenty-fourth Year of our Reign.

CONWAY.

INROLLED in the Office of the Rolls of his Majesty's High Court of Chancery of Ireland, the ninth Day of *March*, in the twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of King GEORGE the Third, &c. and examined by

M. PATERSON, Junr. and FRANCIS PERRY, } Deputy Clerks and Keepers of the Rolls.

FINIS.